8/29/83
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TRENDS

ASSOCIATION OF AMERICAN RAILROADS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

WASHINGTON, August 25, 1983 -- Freight traffic on major U.S. railroads during the week ended August 20 totaled an estimated 16.7 billion ton-miles, 6.9 percent above the corresponding period a year ago, the Association of American Railroads reported today.

Cumulative volume for the first 33 weeks of 1983 was an estimated 512.4 billion ton-miles, 1.3 percent below the comparable period of last year.

Carloadings in the week ended August 20 totaled 382,105 cars, 5.2 percent over 1982, and 1.4 percent higher than the preceding week of this year. Compared with last year, loadings were up 0.3 percent in the East, and 6.8 percent in the South and 7.4 percent in the West.

Compared with the corresponding week of 1982, 13 of the 21 commodity groups were up, led by nonmetallic minerals, up 40.5 percent, and grain, which posted a 31.8 percent gain. Grain loadings were the highest since the week ended March 7, 1981. Thirteen of the 21 groups were up from the preceding week of this year.

Piggyback

The AAR also reported that piggyback freight traffic on major railroads for the week ended August 13 totaled 45,811 cars, up 23.5 percent from the corresponding week of 1982, and 80,009 trailers and/or containers, 22.1 percent higher than last year.

The cumulative volume of TOFC/COFC traffic for the first 32 weeks of the year was 1,390,452 cars, 20.4 percent higher than last year, and 2,393,779 trailers and/or containers, up 17.0 percent.

(more)

Following are carloadings of major railroads, by commodity groups, for the week ended 8/20/83:

	Loadings in Week ended August 20, 1983		Change from Corresponding Week 1982			Change from Preceding Week	
	Cars		Cars	Percent		Cars	Percent
Grain	32,172	I	7,757	31.8	I	2,747	9.3
Other farm products	3,513	I	293	9.1	D	207	5.6
Metallic ores	16,413	I	2,318	16.4	D	1,827	10.0
Coal	110,192	D	6,766	5.8	D	1,541	1.4
Crushed stone, gravel and sand	10,607	D	356	3.2	D	774	6.8
Nonmetallic minerals	12,526	I	3,609	40.5	I	2,140	20.6
Grain mill products	12,166	D	521	4.1	I	785	6.9
Food and kindred products	11,735	D	1,558	11.7	I	285	2.5
Primary forest products	14,718	I	92	0.6	I	521	3.7
Lumber and wood products except furniture	7,149	I	953	15.4	I	253	3.7
Pulp, paper and allied products	15,213	D	612	3.9	I	415	2.8
Chemicals and allied products	23,357	I	2,190	10.3	I	526	2.3
Petroleum products	4,519	D	644	12.5	D	320	6.6
Stone, clay and glass products	11,105	I	570	5.4	D	281	2.5
Coke	5,711	I	1,635	40.1	I	358	6.7
Metals and products	7,986	I	256	3.3	D	162	2.0
Motor vehicles and equipment	14,222	I	1,851	15.1	I	730	5.4
Waste and scrap materials	8,095	I	656	8.8	I	178	2.2
Forwarder and shipper association traffic	7,962	D	619	7.2	I	12	1.2
All other carloads	52,482	I	8,647	19.7	I	1,376	2.7
LCL traffic	262	D	938	78.2	D	37	12.4
Total Cars Loaded	382,105	I	18,813	5.2	I	5,177	1.4
Corresponding week of 1982	363,292						

	1983	1982	% Change
Total Cars Loaded (33 weeks)	11,671,604	12,176,801	D 4.1
Estimated revenue ton-miles (in billions):			
32 weeks ended August 13	495.7(Rev.)	503.5	D 1.5
Week ended August 20	16.7	15.6	I 6.9
33 weeks cumulative	512.4	519.1	D 1.3

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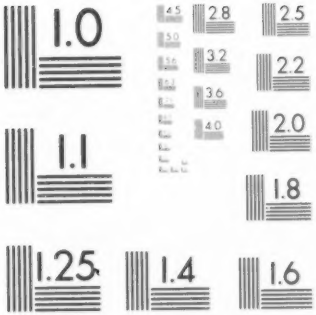

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